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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3, with the following revised paragraph.

The idler pulley 10 of the invention may be from a wide variety of polymeric materials, provided that they are distortion resistant at ambient and higher temperatures. It also is generally desirable, particularly for automotive applications, that the polymeric materials used to make the pulley 10 have a low-temperature resiliency. Suitable polymeric materials include thermoplastic and thermosetting materials, such as polyamides, e.g., polyphthalamides, nylons, particularly, nylon-6, nylon-6,6, nylon-4,6; nylon 6,10; nylon 9; nylon 11 and nylon-12; polyesters, epoxy resins; phenolic resins; polyurethanes; high density polyolefins, e.g., polyethylene; and the like. The polymeric material used to manufacture the body 12 of the pulley 10 may be compounded with additional fillers, modifiers or reinforcing agents as determined for a particular application. In a preferred aspect of the invention the polymeric material contains a reinforcing material, such as a fibrous glass reinforcing material. Useful modifiers include lubricants such as polytetrafluoroethylene, silicone, graphite, molybdenum disulfide, ultra high molecular weight polyethylene. Other suitable modifiers include thermoplastic materials, rubber, etc. Fillers may be glass beads, carbon black, minerals such as calcium carbonate, wollastonite, mica, clay, talc, etc. The reinforcing agent may be glass fibers, long glass fibers, aramid, carbon fibers, etc.

Please replace the paragraph appearing at page 3, line 12 through line 27, with the following revised paragraph.

The tubular insert 14 may be manufactured from steel, aluminum, zinc, brass, or any other suitably rigid and strong material, ~~and may contain additives such as one of~~

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~~more modifiers, fillers, reinforcing agents, adhesion promoters, and the like. Useful modifiers include lubricants such as polytetrafluoroethylene, silicone, graphite, molybdenum disulfide, ultra high molecular weight polyethylene. Other suitable modifiers include thermoplastic materials, rubber, etc. Fillers may be glass beads, carbon black, minerals such as calcium carbonate, wollastonite, mica, clay, talc, etc. The reinforcing agent may be glass fibers, long glass fibers, aramid, carbon fibers, etc.~~

The insert 14 may also be coated or plated to enhance adhesion to the particular polymeric material selected for the body 12 of the idler pulley 10. For example, a brass or zinc plating over a steel tubular insert shell increases the chemical affinity of the insert for a thermoplastic phenolic material, especially if the phenolic material also incorporates any of several classes of adhesion-enhancing ingredients such as sulfur, silica, acrylates, vinyl acetates, low molecular weight polyamides, etc. The outer surface of the tubular insert 14 may be knurled, splined, or otherwise shaped, e.g., it may contain holes, to provide a rough surface for the purpose of enhancing the mechanical interlock of the insert 14 with the plastic body 12. The inner surface of the tubular insert 14 may be provided with means 24, such as a stepped profile or detents, to accurately locate and align the bearing 16 during assembly, or the surface of the insert during molding.